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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE administration has its hands full of diplomatic troubles, and thus far Mr. Gresham seems to have handled them in the spirit which our dignity requires. He has shown neither irritability nor pusillanimity. His demands upon Spain for the outrage on the Allianca have been met courteously, with the promise of investigation and satisfaction. He also seems likely to have trouble with France over Madagascar. The hold the French have had upon the unhealthy coast districts, and their undefined protectorate over the native kingdom in the interior

has had the usual consequences. They have quarreled with the native Queen and her advisers, and are now repeating their Tongking folly in a costly expedition for the reduction of the whole island. The interior is not easy of access; steamboats of sufficiently light draught to sail up its shallow rivers, past the malarious mangrove swamps, have to be purchased in England and carried all the way to the island on ships of war. The interior is full of precipitous mountains and narrow passes, as if to facilitate ambuscades, and they have really no claims on the country which would justify their aggressions, and no prospect of any gains from it which would compensate for the costs of a war.

Naturally, the English and American residents in the island, whether traders or missionaries, are on the side of the natives, who, since their Christianization, have been a well-behaved, orderly people. Our former Consul, Mr. Waller, seems to have made himself especially offensive to the French by the expression of this feeling. On a charge of simply being in official correspondence with the native government, with which France is waging war, he has been sentenced by court-martial to twenty years' imprisonment. The real fault, our present Consul says, is that Mr. Waller obtained for his countrymen important concessions from the Queen's government in the India rubber trade. The case certainly calls for vigorous remonstrance.

ON our own Continent the Government of Nicaragua, for the offense of deporting a British Consul, who made himself the adviser of a discontented tribe of Indians on the Mosquito coast, is ordered, in terms almost savage, to pay a heavy indemnity to Great Britain. The English interest in Nicaragua lay in fomenting trouble among these Indians, who long ago abandoned their tribal status and were absorbed into the Republic as citizens. Yet it was only by prompt and vigorous measures that a civil war with them was recently averted; and as Consul Hatch was their adviser through all the stages of their discontent, the Nicaraguan Government was justified in dismissing him from the country, as it had a perfect right to divest him of his official character by withdrawing his *exequatur*.

OUR interest in the matter, of course, is with relation to the Nicaragua Canal. Great Britain, it will be remembered, refused to acknowledge the force of Mr. Blaine's notice that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is at an end so far as concerns the joint protectorate of any canal across Central America. It insisted on the letter of that treaty, which required the agreement of both parties to its abrogation. She, therefore, still holds open her claim to an equal interest in the canal now under way; and as the Republic has placed the matter in our hands, she has every reason to divide its people, undermine its authority and, if possible, to establish herself on Nicaraguan territory. She refuses to accept our arbitration in the matter and presses her demands on the authorities of Nicaragua. Small as is the sum into which she has magnified the wrongs done to her Consul and other British residents, it is greater than Nicaragua can pay. Our government, therefore, has to

decide whether it will allow of the seizure of Nicaraguan territory by British arms, to the grave damage of our interests, or whether it will treat that as a violation of the Monroe doctrine. Once more Mr. Gresham will need to show decision and vigor in our diplomacy, if he is not to go out of office a political wreck like Mr. Bayard.

ONE ground of attack upon the McKinley tariff was the use of shoddy in our woolen mills. It was true that every center of woolen manufacture in Great Britain, except one in Yorkshire, had become the home of the shoddy industry. True, also, that shoddy and chicory were the two articles which the protective tariff laid under a prohibitory duty. Yet Mr. David A. Wells gravely ascribes the prevalence of consumption and similar diseases in America to the use of shoddy by our woolen manufacturers, and to the exclusion of foreign wool and of the honest woolen goods of Yorkshire and other English districts by our protective duties. Yet, now that we have free wool and all the conditions which were said to be necessary to an honest woolen manufacture, we are told that shoddy is to abound among us more than ever. The leading journal of the trade declares that this spring "is distinctly a shoddy goods season, when real merit seems for the moment to be displaced by cheapness." A leading free-trade journal denounces the manufacturers for this, and exhorts the people not to stand in their own light by buying such goods. But how can the people help themselves? With cotton at 4 cents a pound, and wheat at 50 cents a bushel—and the crop short at that—how can they pay for the honest woollens, such as they bought in past years, when cotton was worth three times as much and wheat brought a dollar a bushel at every railroad station? Let those who have set up the gold standard and thus forced down the price of everything else below their normal value, show them how they are to do it. And how are the manufacturers to help themselves? "The demands from important clothing centers," the trade journal says, "run almost exclusively to cheap fabrics." It traces this to the low prices of "wheat, cotton and other farm products," and very justly. But even if these prices were good, how could Americans manufacture and sell honest woollens in the face of the deluge of shoddy goods from the north of England, which the Wilson-Gorman tariff permits and encourages? In America, as everywhere else, the era of free trade is the reign of shoddy. "Cheap and nasty" is the maxim of British manufacturers, whether loaded cottons or shoddy woollens be the article concerned.

At last slow-footed Nemesis begins to overtake the big trusts. Organized to plunder the people by suppressing all competition in the necessities of life, they have been enabled by the favor of legislatures and judges to escape the just penalty of the law, except so far as the Interstate Commerce has restrained their dictation of the domestic carrying trade. But organizations, established in open defiance of the social equities, carry in themselves the elements of their own ruin. No business can be conducted without mutual confidence based on the honesty of the management; and honesty cannot be assured, when the very principle of the organization is unfriendly to it. We cannot, therefore, regard the discoveries as to the plundering of the Whiskey Trust by its own directors as an isolated or exceptional fact. It is a sample of what we may be prepared to hear of similar combinations in other lines of production. Nor is there any reason to doubt that the example thus set will be contagious. Other men, of weak, moral fiber, placed in contact with the same temptation, will find it reinforced by the example. They will not have the support of any moral atmosphere within the circles in which their business calls them to move. Their associates are men whose most marked achievement has been the evasion of just laws to regulate the action of industrial corporations; their business is not the serving of society by work repaid on terms fairly ascertained, but on terms

which they exact of society by the pressure of lawless monopoly. Under such circumstances it will require an honesty much above the average of business life to make a man strong enough to do otherwise than the managers of this big trust have done.

A CALIFORNIA Grand Jury of the United States District Court has had the audacity to indict President C. P. Huntington, of the Southern Pacific Railroad, for issuing a pass which would carry its holder across a State boundary line. This, indeed, was clear violation of the Interstate Commerce law. But it is surprising to find that or any other law against the issue of passes enforced. In our own State the Constitution forbids their issue by any railroad in the State; yet they are given freely and accepted even by some judges of our State courts. This fact came to light through one of our judges losing his pocketbook, which had to be opened to ascertain its owner. It was found to be well filled with these illegal but convenient documents. It is said that the Legislature and the executive branches of our State government are favored equally with the judiciary, and thus big railroad corporations have acquired an insidious and unjust influence in the control of public affairs. A member of the Wisconsin Legislature, a few years ago, brought in a bill to give all the officials of the State the right to ride free on the railroads of the State. He was very much ridiculed, and the bill was never reported from the committee to which it was referred. He was quite right, however, as that is the only way to break the power of these corporations over our public men. When the use of the railroad is a right it will no longer be a favor; and when the railroads can grant no favors they will exert no underhand influence.

At the close of the session of the Fifty-third Congress a bill was defeated which was intended to promote the use of military drill in the public schools of the country. It is said that this was effected by members of the Women's Conference, which was sitting in Washington at the time. Besides securing the passage of resolutions, many of the women lobbied against the measure. A similar bill, now before the State Legislature at Harrisburg, is encountering opposition from prominent opponents of war. It is alleged that the drill tends to familiarize the minds of the young with warlike ideas and associations, and with the instruments of destruction. If it were true that a battle would be fought or a life taken because of drill in the schools there would be some reasonableness in their opposition. But this is neither the purpose nor the effect of that exercise. It has been in use in many of our private schools for thirty years past without any appreciable effect on the careers of their pupils. The Central High School of Philadelphia, in which there has been no such drill, has sent more boys to West Point and Annapolis than have all our military academies. The drill has made their pupils straighter, stronger, more healthy boys, correcting especially the tendency to stooping and cramping the lungs into which young people fall so easily. It has taught them prompt and implicit obedience to orders, has corrected slouching and careless habits, and has been a great help to school discipline.

Even if it did fit and dispose our boys to take their place in the National Guard of the State, this would be a result on which the Commonwealth hardly could frown. It is upon our citizen soldiery that we rely in all emergencies for the maintenance of public order. They are our special State police, which we maintain at some cost to ourselves and with some help from the nation. Is it so grossly improper that our school system should lead up to this public service?

THE British colonies of the Southern Hemisphere are perhaps the last countries we should expect to be interested in the fortunes of silver. The production of gold, and of that alone among the metals, has been their specialty; and we might expect them to

range themselves on the side of the friends of gold-monometallism. New Zealand, however, is not of this mind; nor are we sure that the Australian colonies have any reason to think differently. Their producers have suffered, along with those of the rest of the world, from the lengthening yardstick. Their indebtedness to the London money-lenders grows in weight with every month. They have to export a larger amount of their wool and other products to pay the interest. The growing weight of the burden threatens them with public bankruptcy. So New Zealand announces that if there is to be another international conference on silver she will be represented at it.

India, no doubt, will be represented also. Sir Lepel Griffin has been stating her case recently to a London audience. He speaks from a large acquaintance with Indian finance, and his statements are not weakened by the fact that he is a notorious no-friend of America. He is the only notable Anglo-Indian who is so, Sir George Campbell and Sir Richard Temple being much of the other way of thinking. Sir Lepel takes the most cheerful view he can of India's future. He thinks the limits of taxation have not been reached, an opinion from which many good judges dissent. But his main point was that "for India the solution of the currency difficulty is a matter of life and death," and that "bimetallism offers the only remedy." He thought the situation had been rendered all the more critical by the war between Japan and China, as its results are sure to affect, adversely, England's commerce in the east of Asia.

Two men are focussing the attention of a large part of mankind at this moment, at the close of careers not unlike. Li Hung Chang and Prince Bismarck each saved his country by measures of vigor and by defiance of traditional routine. Each ruled it as mayor of the palace in the name of a less able man. Each was removed from his control through the accession of a new sovereign.

That Bismarck's eightieth birthday falls on Monday next makes that a national holiday. Even the young Emperor, who has never forgiven the one man who resented his imperious willfulness, has to go to Paschim to take part in the festivities. Only the Liberals of the Reichstag, who cannot forgive the humiliations the old dictator inflicted on them, refuse to join in the acclaim.

Li Hung Chang, in his old age, has to go forth to plead for peace with an invading power, and to encounter the bullet of the assassin in his humiliating quest. The Japanese deprecate all responsibility for the mad act; but they are not quite free from responsibility. They have allowed the growth of a class of young and violent rowdies in Japan, which has been a menace to the life of every unpopular leader and every noteworthy visitor. It will be remembered that one of them tried to kill a Russian grand duke, the present Emperor, Nicholas II., who was traveling in Japan a few years ago, and that another did murder Arinori Mori, the Japanese scholar, who proposed to eliminate the irregularities of the English language, so as to fit it for world-wide use. The leaders of the Radical and Progressist parties have employed these professional soshi to break up the meetings of their opponents, and in some districts no meetings can be held, except by these parties, without violent interruptions. They all profess the most ardent Japanese patriotism, but they are the element in the population which does the most to lower the name of Japan before the world.

It is noteworthy that England is making her appropriations for both army and navy this year, with a view to the approach of a great European war. This the opposition in Parliament expressly demanded, and to this the Ministry promptly acceded. Nothing like this occurred in any of the recent war panics which agitated the money markets of Europe. Evidently the leaders on both sides are satisfied that the present condition of heavily

armed peace cannot continue much longer, and that when it comes to an end England cannot be kept out of the fray. Her traditions commit her to the side of the central European powers, and it is with France that she measures her land and naval forces, declaring it necessary to maintain her old supremacy upon the sea. The French themselves say that although their navy costs them two-thirds as much as England spends on hers, the result is a navy only half as strong, partly through the greater cost of shipbuilding in French dockyards.

THE LEADERSHIP THAT WILL WIN.

INTELLIGENT, courageous, faithful leadership is an essential element in popular government. The American people ordinarily are the most generous in the world in the bestowal of their confidence; yet there are times when they are most exacting in their demands in this respect. Realizing the obligation resting upon those capable of serving in high places, manifestation of public dissatisfaction with time-serving trimmers and professional compromisers is certain to follow the betrayal of popular trust. Our national history is full of impressive object-lessons of this character. Men of brilliant talents and high ambitions have made sorry wrecks of once hopeful careers through taking counsel of selfish fears at the critical moment. In statesmanship as in war he who hesitates is lost. Clear-headed comprehension of great principles must be supplemented by readiness to contend for them, regardless of personal consequences. This heroic quality of leadership has characterized the men whose names stand foremost in the annals of civilization, and it will ever be so. When Abraham Lincoln was valiantly advocating the cause of freedom and defending the fundamental ideas of Republican government, he was cautiously admonished of the danger of blocking his own pathway to political preferment. He was urged to omit from one of his speeches in the great Senatorial debate with Douglass, in 1858, a striking reference to the irrepressible conflict of the hour. His immortal reply was that he would rather be defeated on account of that patriotic utterance than win at the price of silence. His patriotic soul revolted at the suggestion of such cowardly subserviency to political tyranny. Would that this grand spirit actuated some of the men to-day who aspire to lead the great party of which he was one of the founders and the most illustrious chieftain.

There never was a time when the exigencies of the hour more imperatively demanded the highest type of political leadership than to-day. Everywhere men who should be standing bravely at the front are skulking in the rear. There seems to be a general agreement upon the part of prominent Republican politicians, in and out of office, to avoid committing themselves in a pronounced way on the supreme issue that is agitating the public mind throughout the whole country. They outdo each other in what they are pleased to regard as masterly inactivity. They either say nothing upon the pressing financial problem and the grave industrial and commercial evils that have paralyzed trade, ruinously reduced values and brought irreparable loss to a vast number of our most worthy people, or else their observations are models of flippant incoherency, veiling transparent attempts to ride into power through cowardly concealment of real views and purposes. All this is as discreditable as it is unwise, unpatriotic and futile. There will be a rude awakening presently. The man who enters the White House in 1897, as the successor of the present sadly overrated, blundering and perverse Executive, will not be numbered among the charlatans and weaklings who, in 1895, could give no honest confession of faith before all men. The Republican party has always proudly boasted that it was a party of great ideas and strong leaders of the people. How is it in this crisis? Ignorance, under the circumstances, is an unpardonable sin. The light is shining everywhere. The makers of the Federal organic law unerringly pointed the way. There was no departure from this just and safe

standard for nearly ninety years. "The money of the Constitution shall be gold and silver." To disregard that fundamental provision is high treason to the nation. To trample upon it, at the mercenary behest of the foreign enemies of the Republic is a criminal betrayal of national interests. To listen to the selfish sophistries of unscrupulous money-changers, who seek to still further plunder the people, is a shameless confession of political mendacity. To refuse to manfully declare for the prompt and complete restoration of a true American policy is to invite open repudiation and condemnation on the part of every enlightened and patriotic American citizen, and which will as surely be visited upon these false leaders as the night follows the day.

Wanted—leadership in this crusade for an honest and just financial and industrial policy in the United States which shall be inspiring, commanding and triumphant. It can only be based upon immovable conviction, recognized ability, unquestioned integrity and the loftiest fidelity to the people. It can only secure recognition and successful following through unselfishly grappling with the enemy now, before his lines are again formed and his plans matured for the coming contest. It cannot hope to win unless it appeals to the minds and hearts of the people and relies with confidence upon their support, and not upon the brazen schemes of their would-be taskmasters. The standard may be placed in experienced hands and it may be given to one fresh from the people themselves—one who is in full sympathy with them, who understands their wrongs, who has felt the burden and borne his share and whose spirit is in touch with theirs. He may again come up from the soil, like the mighty leader who broke the shackles of the bondmen and saved the Union and free government, thirty and more years ago. The one thing certain is, that in 1896 the spirit of 1776, 1812 and 1861 will wrest the control of the Federal Government from the hands of the enemies of the American people. The present crisis is of far-reaching importance, in all essential respects more serious and dangerous than any which ever confronted this great nation. It must and will be met in the most courageous way, and all who fail to do their duty as opportunity offers will be cast aside as faithless to the highest trust of American citizenship.

HOW SILVER WAS "STRUCK DOWN."

RESPONDING to a seeker for truth respecting the metallic money question, the New York *Press* actually denies that the act of February 12, 1873, "struck down silver." "How," it asks, "could a little clause in an obscure bill which the President who signed it did not observe, and which Roscoe Conkling and many other Senators declared they did not notice, 'strike down silver'?" Our laws," the *Press* insists, "have no such potency;" and then it repeats the often-repeated statement that American coinage of silver up to 1873 had been so insignificant that really there was little or no silver to "strike down." While most unfair, these declarations may have some peril for uninformed persons; and they are noteworthy, also, because they contain some important admissions of fact.

It is of no small significance that this advocate of the gold standard confesses that the clause of the act of 1873 demonetizing silver was obscure, and that the Senators who voted for the bill and the President who signed it did not notice that silver was thus discarded. Hitherto the gold advocates have agreed in insisting that the silver-discarding clauses of the bill were discussed for three years under circumstances of the largest publicity. But it is indeed true, as the *Press* declares, that there was so little knowledge of the nature and purposes of the bill that the public men who approved it were astonished when they learned what revolutionary processes it had authorized. The reason for this ignorance, the cause of this obscurity, have never been fully explained; nor can they be, perhaps, unless the persons who contrived the whole performance are still alive and subject to those impulses

of a guilty conscience which sometimes force men to make frank confession of their offenses. It may with much confidence be suggested that the bill, as it was finally placed upon the statute books, was really not the bill that passed Congress; and the proceeding by which the change was effected may possibly have been described accurately by the word employed for that purpose by Senator Allison who, on February 15, 1878, declared it had been "doctored."

It cannot be questioned, we suppose, that a "little clause in an obscure bill" might "strike down silver" as effectively as a great clause in a bill that was not obscure. What the bill in question assuredly did was this: From 1792 to 1893, the silver dollar, containing $37\frac{1}{4}$ grains of fine silver, was the only lawful "unit of value" in the United States. But, during the whole of that long period, gold and silver had exactly equal rights at the mints, enjoying together practically free coinage; and both, therefore, occupied the position of standard money, measuring and defining the values of all other things. The act of February 12, 1873, threw down the silver dollar as the lawful "unit of value," and, for the first time in American history, made the gold dollar the lawful unit. While that act continued to gold its old privilege of free coinage, it denied to silver the right to be coined upon any terms or in any quantity. This was revolutionary action, overthrowing the uniform practice and completely reversing the ancient precedents. Would it be possible to conceive of any proceeding which could more effectually have "struck down silver"? What course of action pursued by anyone hostile to that metal could have procured with greater approach to certainty the desired result of the demonetization of one of the two precious metals?

Whether we had coined much or little silver in this country prior to 1873 is a matter of no importance in considering the subject. It would be enough to say that had silver not been demonetized at that or any other time the people would have obtained the benefits of the subsequent large production of silver in our Western territory. No man who has studied the subject with an open mind can doubt that we could have maintained the two metals at parity under such circumstances. Observe these figures, representing the comparative production of the two metals in four different periods:

1792-1848. Twice as much silver as gold was produced.

1849-1862. One-third as much silver as gold was produced.

1862-1873. Twice as much gold as silver was produced.

1873-1892. One-fourth more silver than gold was produced.

During the first three periods, with one metal or the other largely in excess, the two metals without difficulty were kept at or near to par. Is it not most reasonable to believe that, in the fourth period, when silver was but slightly in excess, the same relationship could have been maintained if the same conditions under the law and at the mints had been permitted to continue? Moreover, it must be noted as of high importance that silver-demonetization was not confined to this country. Following our evil example, Germany and the nations of the Latin Union and other European nations proceeded to discredit silver. Thus the blow struck at that metal was not aimed merely by an "obscure" American law, but by practically world-wide legislation affecting the silver and also the gold of the whole civilized earth.

But it is not strange that the gold standard press should persist in hiding the facts and distorting the evidence. The cause for which it speaks cannot hope to achieve any victories unless the truth shall be hidden completely from the eyes of the people.

FALLING PRICES AND PARALYZED INDUSTRIES.

THE papers of the East which have so long antagonized all plans for the extended use of silver have of late divided into two groups. One group maintains that any unaided effort on the part of the United States to restore silver to its place as money

will result in failure, but urges the desirability of international bimetallism. The other maintains that the use of silver as money side by side with gold, either by independent action or by international agreement, is both impracticable and undesirable, and that the attempt would be attended by ruinous consequences.

Both admit that the great fall in prices has not been due to a reduced cost of production, and that the opening of the mints to the coinage of silver would cause a general rise in prices. So far the two groups go together, but no farther. At this point their ways part, the first group, or advocates of "bimetallism by international agreement only," declaring that the continuous fall of prices has done and is doing injustice and damage, and the second group, or those who are opposed to bimetallism under any conditions, claiming that the fall in prices has hurt no one. The latter base their belief on the assumption that, while the producer receives less for the product of his labor, he pays a correspondingly lower rate for what he buys.

If prices had fallen to one-half of their old quotations and had then become stable at the lower level we would have been able to adjust our dealings to the new conditions, and after the adjustment was once made trade would have again reached a normal condition. The losses occasioned by such a fall in prices would have been great and would have brought ruin to many; but as they could have been measured, and when once accepted and met, and the country had had time to adapt itself to the lower prices, our people could have resumed their dealings with one another without fear of further loss. Of course, the unjust burden thrown upon debtors who had borrowed under the old conditions would not have been lightened.

The effect of the demonetization of silver has been to double the burden of all debtors, but if Congress, instead of striking down silver as it did in 1873, had enacted in so many words that all debts must be settled by the payment of twice the amount called for, that a debt contracted in terms of \$1,000 could thereafter only be paid by the payment to the creditor of \$2,000, the injustice done would have been more palpable, but the country would not have suffered one tithe of the disasters that have followed in the train of silver-demonetization and the unseen and constant fall of prices. If prices had taken one measurable fall and then had become fixed, the above would have been the results, losses and disasters would have followed, but the resulting distress would have been insignificant in comparison to the appalling and rapidly spreading distress that now surrounds us. If prices had become stable at the lower level there might be some truth in the statement of the monometallists who say that the fall has hurt no one, because the reduced proceeds that the producer receives from the sale of his product are equalled by the reduced cost of what he buys.

But prices have not become fixed at the unparalleled low prices. On the contrary, they continue to fall as they have done for the last twenty years, and as they must continue to do, so long as population increases, thus increasing the demand for money, and the supply remains restricted to the paltry product of gold. While the fall in prices continues business must continue to be unsettled and the energy of the producer paralyzed. The producer cannot prosper when prices are falling. He may add to the utility and hence the value of the material upon which he is expending his labor and capital, but the depreciation in the price of his stock will absorb, in the meantime, all his profit. The farmer who pays 50 cents for his seed wheat and sells the crop at 40 cents per bushel, who pays his hands at the rates that the price received for his last year's crop warranted, but which rates leave him no profit when he must sell his wheat at 20 per cent. less than the year before, the same farmer who, if he rents his farm finds his rent grow heavier, or if he owns it subject to a mortgage, finds the interest increasing, or if, perchance, he owns it clear finds its value decreasing but the taxes remaining the same,—does not he suffer from falling prices? The manufacturer who pays what he considers a fair

price for his raw material, but who finds before he has the product ready for market that the price of the raw material has still further fallen, thus causing a fall in the price of the finished article, who suffers from the depreciation of his factory, as well as his stock,—does not he suffer from the fall of prices? If he is his own capitalist, he may pocket his losses; if he is doing his business on borrowed money, he is ruined. As it is with the farmer and manufacturer so it is with the miner and shipper.

And if the employer does not prosper, can the wage-earner? If one prospers the other prospers; neither can prosper alone, or at the expense of the other. The statement repeated again and again that the pay of the wage-earner has remained nearly the same, and that, therefore, he is a gainer from the low level of prices, has no foundation. Wages have not remained the same; the normal rate has, it is true, in some rare instances, been maintained, but idle days have reduced the earnings of the wage-earner as much as would a reduced scale of wages. Three million men continuously idle, and perhaps as many more working on reduced time, tell the tale of reduced wages. The fact is that the yearly earnings of the wage-earner have fallen in proportion to the fall in prices. What better proof of this than the present struggle of the great wage-earning classes for mere existence?

BIMETALLISM IN PENNSYLVANIA.

THE Philadelphia *Record*, the leading Democratic newspaper of Pennsylvania, is not blind to the signs of the times. Although one of the most determined advocates of gold-monometallism, openly threatening a split in the Democratic party should the silver section become dominant in its councils, the *Record* does not hesitate to express the truth. In its issue of March 25th the leading editorial is devoted to the position taken by Republicans in Pennsylvania on the money question. The first words, "The combat deepens in the Republican party in Pennsylvania over the silver question," coming from this source mean a great deal. Then, referring to the invitation extended to Mr. Charles Heber Clark, the well-known editor of the *Manufacturer* and able advocate of the unrestricted use of silver as money, to address the Republican members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, the *Record* continues: "It need not be said that the greater number of the members of the Manufacturers' Club are in entire sympathy with the editor of their organ on this question. This manifested itself very clearly when the bill to repeal the Sherman Silver Purchase act was under consideration in the extra session of the Fifty-third Congress. Nor is there any doubt that in the rural sections of Pennsylvania the Republican party is very strongly impregnated with a belief in the desirability of free silver coinage."

The majority of the Republican party in Pennsylvania believe in the use of silver as money side by side with gold, and the minority, while opposing any independent action of the United States looking towards the remonetization of silver, advocate international bimetallism. The Philadelphia *Press* goes so far as to say that "An international agreement on the silver question which would re-establish silver in its full place, side by side with gold, is the great object to be earnestly sought."

Many of the Republican papers follow the lead of the *Press* and profess to be earnest believers in international bimetallism; but the *Record* calls their motives in question. "Although international bimetallism," it says, "on any basis is as chimerical as a dream, it serves in this country as a convenient means by which the currency question may be evaded. Hence the division that has arisen in the ranks of the Republican party in Pennsylvania." The *Record* goes on to say that the gold-monometallic Republicans have assumed the bimetallic mask because they think it better to fight under cover, or rather because they dare not fight in the open. The editor of the *Record* has no respect for these

"bimetallists who are fighting under cover," and declares that "far from serving the cause of sound currency the professed believers in bimetallism are daily making converts to free silver coinage."

The position of the Republican party in Pennsylvania is this: The mass of the voters are in favor of the restoration of silver to its place as money; a small minority are fighting for gold-monometallism under cover of bimetallism, but this minority has at present control of the party organs and is, therefore, doubly powerful and dangerous.

We trust the representatives of Pennsylvania's citizens will not be misled by the discolored declarations of the gold press. Let them take heed of the demands of their constituents, and by declaring for the restoration of silver by the independent action of the United States, throw off the yoke of the gold press and place the Republican party of Pennsylvania before the people of America in its true light. The opportunity will be offered them by Mr. Clark's address.

LAUGHTER OF A BOY.

THERE'S a lot of music making
In this world which we enjoy,
But we feel our souls awaking
In the laughter of a boy—
In the hearty, buoyant laughter
Of a romping, happy boy.

There is not a note of sadness
Which its music can alloy;
There's a world of careless gladness
In the laughter of a boy—
In the free and ringing laughter
Of a romping, happy boy.

How it takes us backward flying
With its merriment and joy!
For the earth cannot be sighing
With the laughter of a boy—
With the glad and joyous laughter
Of a romping, happy boy.

Oh, that my heart in rapture
Could the mirth of youth decoy
And the melody could capture
From the laughter of a boy—
From the long-forgotten laughter
Of a romping, happy boy.

WOMAN'S WAYS.

TWO English writers, well known this side of the sea as well, are seriously ill from overwork in a literary way—Mrs. Sarah Grand and Mrs. Lynn Linton.

In the Italian colony on Boyden Street, Newark, lives the youngest grandmother in that city. This grandmother is only twenty-eight years old. Her daughter, who is about fifteen years old, became a mother a few weeks ago.

It is said that women's voices do not give good results in the long-distance telephone; their high notes, excellent in short lines, as all city telephone subscribers know, are an obstacle to clear transmission in lines of considerable length.

Chief Justice Groesbeck, of Wyoming, writes to the Ohio Superintendent of Education that woman suffrage in his State has tended to secure good nominations for public offices. It has been found that women, as a class, will not vote for incompetent or immoral candidates.

At the Wigan pantomime the other night two ladies who lived at a distance, having to catch an early train, were obliged to leave the theatre before the performance was finished. Selecting, as they thought, a quiet interlude, they were passing out of the stalls, when an actor suddenly appeared on the stage, and, repeating a part of his role, exclaimed, "There they go. The only two women I ever loved. One I couldn't have, and the other I couldn't get." The amusement of the audience and the astonishment of the young ladies can be imagined.—*London Spare Moments.*

There have been many changes and discoveries in the practice of life insurance during the last two decades. To-day women are regarded as about fifteen per cent. better risks than men, conditions being equal, and on account of their greater chances for longevity are treated better than men in the way of premiums. This applies particularly to women over fifty years of age. One reason given for this discrimination is that while men may be overburdened with care, trouble and worry of a business nature, women, not having these harassing conditions to contend with, are healthier and in better condition to withstand sickness should it overtake them.

Some women carry very heavy insurance risks, and the method of endowment and annuity payments adopted by some of the companies has drawn many fair investors to their lists. One of the heaviest annuities ever arranged for by any woman in this country is that under which Mrs. Sylvia Livingston, of Brooklyn, is guaranteed an annuity of \$7,000 during her life. For this Mrs. Livingston paid somewhere in the neighborhood of \$100,000 in cash.

Of the women who carry heavy insurance policies, Mrs. George Hearst, of San Francisco, leads with \$400,000, and is followed by Mrs. E. B. Crocker, of Elmira, N. Y., with \$150,000. Mrs. Hamilton Disston, of Philadelphia, is one of a family of heavily insured people. She carries \$100,000, and her husband and son carry \$600,000 each. Mrs. J. Sloat Fassett, of Elmira; Mrs. M. W. Lux, of San Francisco, and Mrs. Gage E. Tarbell, of Chicago, each carry \$100,000 on their lives. Mrs. Lauretta B. Gibson, of Cincinnati, is credited with \$70,000, and some of the women who carry \$50,000 are: Mrs. Harwood, of Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. A. A. Huestis, of Chicago; Mrs. Edward Shelby, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Mrs. Juanna A. Neal, of Los Angeles, Cal.; Mrs. Lorena Bailey, and Mrs. Mary E. S. Ransom, of Louisville, Ky.; Miss Julia Hills, of Muskegon, Mich., and Mrs. Lorena S. Standiford, of Paducah, Ky.

MEN YOU HEAR ABOUT.

WILLIAM WATSON, the English poet, has been granted a pension of \$500 a year by Rosebery's government. The Gladstone regime had already provided him with a pension of \$1,000 a year.

The successor to the throne of Siam, Prince Chowfa Maha Vajiravudh, who was formally invested as heir-apparent at the Siamese Legation in London, on March 8th, is only sixteen years of age. He is a bright, attractive youth, who is becoming an accomplished linguist and who will return to his native land a thorough European in manners and address.

After declaring that it has "been buncoed again" into printing an obituary notice of the bandit Garza, the *Kingston Freeman* says: "Mr. Garza has had the last death notice he will ever get in this paper. No matter if he should attain to the age of Methuselah or become a Democratic candidate for the Presidency we would not mention him. The time has come to draw the line."

President Faure, of France, is by virtue of his office supreme commander of the army and navy. His predecessors have overlooked the fact that their office conferred this rank upon them, but M. Faure has just held at the Elysee a meeting of the Higher Council of War. The French people generally approve of President Faure's inclination to exercise his full powers as chief of the State.

A writer in the *Atlanta (Ga.) Journal* says that the only man who ever represented three States in the United States Senate was an Irishman, General James Shields. Shields was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1810, but came to this country in 1826, settling in Illinois. He was chosen to the Supreme bench of Illinois, served with honor in the Mexican war, and was made a major-general by brevet for gallantry at Chapultepec. In 1849 he was Senator from Illinois, serving a full term. Early in the fifties he moved to Minnesota, and had lived there only a few years when he was sent to the Senate to fill an unexpired term. He served through the war of Secession and then went to Wisconsin. In 1879 he was a member of the Legislature of that State and was appointed United States Senator to fill a short unexpired term. He died in June of that year in California.

OPEN DOORS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OUR FEDERAL FINANCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN.

Dear Sir: The paradoxical predicament of the National Treasury would be superlatively farcical were it not for its tragical relations with our working population. The fact that more than two millions of workmen (the majority of whom have families at their heels) are absolutely unemployed, and suffer the miseries of destitution, presents not only a picture of painful gravity, but one suggestive of serious alarm. This sense of alarm assumes a still more ominous aspect, from the fact (which cannot much longer be concealed from the people) that their poignant miseries are the immediate work, either ignorant or willful, of the Federal Government. The President, recently and publicly, declared in one of his messages that his administration would abandon and renounce "Paternalism," which means any solicitude or action by the government on behalf of the working people. By a similar and simultaneous proclamation he likewise enunciated that "Public office is a public trust." In every such a trust the working classes are obviously and necessarily its principal beneficiaries! If governments are not expressly meant to protect and benefit their respective people, what good end can they possibly subserve? Unlike Turkish tyrannies or mediæval despotisms, civilized communities always require governments to be the faithful guardians of the public weal. The preamble to the Constitution of the United States, moreover, expressly declares that it was designed "by the people to promote the general welfare." How, therefore, can any policy which divests millions of working people of their daily bread be made reconcilable with the Federal Constitution? Such a problem baffles all the sophistry of the sufferers. Something more than partisan or oratorical blandishments are requisite for their conciliation. During periods of universal industry and prosperity the working classes of all nations are willing to be cajoled, and are more or less indifferent to either optimistic or pessimistic political theories. They care less for the future and its iridescence than for immediate well-being. They are bread-winners, not metaphysicians, and they are rendered irritable and impatient by the unsatisfied cry of their families for bread. The impossibility of its attainment by honest industry makes them savage. Under the spur of such exasperations a higher law than that advocated by demagogues, impels them to the very brink of lawlessness. That all this present financial imbroglio is either the wicked or the blundering work of the United States Treasury Department is too plain to admit of discussion. But for the baleful assault of the Congress of 1873 upon the national money-volume (which assault has been most unhappily sustained and legitimated of late by Congress, as well as by the President) the colossal evils complained of could never have transpired. By the gold newspapers they are ascribed to the overproduction of wheat, cotton, silver and manufactures generally, to which many who know nothing of the principles of finance superadd a superabundant coinage of silver. The continual reiteration of these fables impose upon the uninformed, who with infinite credulity can credit any exaggerated absurdity offered in that behalf. The following facts, however, are submitted in rebuttal:

Upon the close of the Rebellion the volume of our national money (gold, silver and paper combined) amounted to \$55 per capita. It is now less than \$23. This prodigious contraction can alone suffice to explain the fall in general prices, which has at length ensued. Agricultural land, which was worth a few years ago \$200 per acre, is scarcely saleable to-day for \$50. Wheat, cotton and cereals generally scarcely bring the cost of their production. Silver, formerly worth \$1.30 per ounce, has sunk to 60 cents. Moreover, the following is a summary from the pen of a renowned financial expert of the ruin wrought during eight

months of the year 1893 by the money famine caused by the demonetization of silver:

"Between April and December 30th (a period of eight months) more than 15,000 bankruptcies and suspensions of commercial and industrial concerns and companies took place; and more than 600 banking institutions were seriously or wholly ruined. The total amount of money thus involved was \$750,000,000. This vast sum exceeded the record of any previous year in the history of the country by more than \$500,000,000! It exceeded the bankruptcies and suspensions of 1892 by \$635,000,000! \$1,200,000,000 of railroad property was during the same period forced into the hands of receivers or Wall Street looters. Three millions of men and women were left out of work on the 1st of January, 1894, and the New York *Tribune* of April 27th of that year said: 'Labor had been compelled to sacrifice from its earnings in one year a sum as great as the entire national debt created by the four years' Rebellion!'"

So great was the financial havoc thus accomplished by the money famine during the years 1893 and 1894 that "75 per cent. of the commercial and manufacturing business of the country was in a balance between solvency and insolvency."

In the face of this vast fiscal cataclysm the gold newspapers and Congressmen (in flagrant antagonism with the organic principles both of finance and political economy) have the hardihood, as above mentioned, to impute them to impossible and preposterous causes. With unparalleled effrontery they even reverse the facts, so far as to assert that the effects of the present contraction of the money volume have been its veritable causes! HAMLET.

Philadelphia, March 26, 1895.

WHERE DOES THE REPUBLICAN PARTY STAND?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN.

Dear Sir: In your reply to the Lyman Trumbull Club, you bring to mind with great force the inquiry, Where does the Republican party, as represented by its acknowledged leaders, stand on the metal-money question, and some other leading questions of to-day?

The correct answer must be found at an early day if the grand old party is going to continue its usefulness to our country, and to aid in this search for the correct answer, I submit some passing thoughts for consideration of your readers. You say: "We hope and believe the Republican party will stand upon the principles set forth in the following platform—a platform that THE AMERICAN has adopted as its own."

Now permit me to take this platform and see how it fits to the acts of existing leaders.

I. We demand legislation that will check and prevent the aggression of concentrated capital; that will provide means to discover dishonest overcapitalization of corporations, and enforce penalties against such overcapitalization.

II. We demand the maintenance of a true protective system—a system that will—

(a) Protect American labor against underpaid and degraded European and Asiatic labor, and secure to American citizens the American markets.

(b) Extend American foreign commerce by adequate subsidies to American shipping.

(c) Remove all protective duties from imported articles which domestic "trusts" and combinations, created to control domestic production and repress domestic competition, have monopolized, destroying thus at home the benefit which protection along the frontier is intended to secure.

(d) Demonstrate that protection is a national question, not a class question, and that protective duties are not imposed for the benefit of any class, but for the public advantage of (1) diversified industries, (2) the industrial independence of the nation, (3) the maintenance of comfort and intelligence among the people, and (4) the promotion of domestic commerce through extension and improvement of the means of communication.

III. We demand legislation that will establish on a permanent basis the unrestricted use of both gold and silver as money of the United States; that will admit to the mints of the United States

for coinage silver bullion from mines of the United States of America upon payment by the owner of a seigniorage absorbing three-fourths of the difference between the market (London) price and its value when coined; and that will admit foreign silver only for coinage purposes at a seigniorage absorbing all of the difference between the market (London) price and its value when coined.

IV. We demand the extension of our external trade relations with countries having different soil, climate and products from those of the United States, especially when they use both gold and silver as money, unrestricted in amount and upon an agreed ratio, thereby establishing an International Trade League.

V. We demand legislation that will prohibit sale of public lands to aliens and the ownership of lands by aliens.

VI. We demand legislation that will prohibit immigration of subjects or citizens of foreign countries, unless such immigrants intend to become citizens of the United States, and unless they can demonstrate that they have not been of the criminal or pauper classes in the countries from which they emigrated.

Plank I. seems to be most excellent, and worthy the support of patriotic Americans of all parties.

Plank II. is decidedly Republican, and no doubt will be accepted by all Republicans, whether inside or outside the breast-works of party officialism, and many Democrats of the older American type will gladly stand on this platform.

Plank III. will commend itself to a great majority of the rank and file of both parties, but may lack friends enough amongst those who control the party machinery, the "practical politicians" of either party, to command its adoption by the National Convention of either party. Being the strongest presentment of a "fair-play" spirit which has been introduced into the current discussion of the metal-money question, if adopted by only one of the great parties it would give that party a walkover at our next national election; but, if adopted by both, the settlement of the question will depend largely on side issues of no great present importance. Herein lies the danger. Now, as Republican sentiment, for reasons not necessary to enlarge upon, seems for the present to dominate the masses, it seems to be right and proper to make the rank and file of that party familiar with this plank of your platform, to the end that through such familiarity they may be able to direct their leaders in the way they must go to secure their votes.

Plank IV. is also Republican in character, and will obtain support from Americans of all parties.

Plank V. is a sound one, and if gone into in a fair-play spirit can be made the law of the land.

Plank VI. seems to be so broad that it becomes foggy and its execution will be impractical. In fact, it is the only plank in the platform which savors of that bane of our governmental system, viz., "practical politics." It might be modified into a practical shape without losing its intended force.

Now, let us look into the public record of our party leaders of the first magnitude and see where they would stand on your platform:

McKinley, Reed, Sherman, and all that grade of known leaders, would be proud to stand on Planks I., II., IV., with a little bit of their feet on V. and VI., for sake of "practical politics"; but Plank III., the one most necessary to the country's immediate relief and future progress, would be straddled or kicked out of the platform altogether by this class of leaders.

Leaders seem to come up, serve one special purpose, and then go down again. No doubt this is a wise provision in the law of God. A leader is a leader only so long as he is able to follow the will of the great masses of the plain people; probably another wise provision in God's law of life.

Leaders who have served their country once at a great crisis, or in wisely deciding some great question, are very apt to think themselves equally wise on all subjects and on all occasions. In this they invariably find they are mistaken, but usually after the mistake is made. This would seem to be still another wise provision of God's law.

Lincoln would not have made a great or even possibly a safe banker, yet he took a bankrupt and a paralyzed government, a wounded and divided country, and by the sheer force of plain common sense, without any of the brilliancy and polish so much sought after to-day, he restored confidence in the government and its finances and reunited the country.

It is only by this same kind of leadership that this almost bankrupt nation can be restored to its proper place in the procession of civilized nations of the earth.

Our acknowledged leaders of to-day of all parties have served their purpose so far; and although many of them will drop out of sight, unwept, unhonored and unsung, it remains to be seen whether any of them are big enough to lead as Lincoln led by following the will of the plain people.

If they are, they will be impelled and guided by an all-wise Providence to prove it, not by the negative methods of "practical politics," of which we have already had too much, but by the positive demonstration of ability to strike the chord of common sense on the question of metal money, leaving the practical politicians to wallow in the mire of their own folly—a mire created by their destruction of individuality and consequent loss of character.

J. A.

Philadelphia, March 27, 1895.

A DANGER TO BE CONSIDERED—A SOLE GOLD STANDARD IMPOSSIBLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN.

Dear Sir: There are some important aspects of the great questions now agitating the world which appear to be lost sight of in the general discussion of the subject of money.

If the contention of the gold-monometallists be carried to its only logical conclusion, then the silver coinage of the world in both that active use and such as is held as specie reserves, becomes mere token money. Of course, that can only be accomplished by taking from silver coin that protection which public law gives to all money, its debt-paying power.

Few men are so bold as to believe this can ever be done, for while metallic money in any form is relied upon as the medium of conducting the exchanges which constitute the commerce of the world, silver must hold its place. There is such wonderful fitness in that use of the white metal, always deemed precious, not only because of its intrinsic qualities, but because it has cost so much more than its coin value to get it, and because of its divisibility into coins not too minute in size, yet low enough in value to meet the requirements of mankind in daily and hourly use.

The challenge of opinion at the Brussels Conference by Mr. Van der Berg, President of the Bank of the Netherlands, illustrates this.

He asked, "Will any of you advocates of the gold standard dare, in the maintenance of your opinion, to take the responsibility of recommending the demonetization of the vast mass of silver coin which still circulates as legal tender (lawful money) throughout Europe?"

No one has yet been bold enough to propose even that, except one lone American Congressman. It cannot be accomplished. Revolution would prevent it.

The people would everywhere revolt and anarchy reign. Soldiers and police could not be employed, for they could not be paid.

This being true, another subject of vital importance is being overlooked, and as the divergence between the yellow and the white metal increases, so do the dangers to which I call attention. That is, what Mr. James Barbour, one of the ablest members of the late Royal Commission, called *false coinage*. In his report he refers to this as a serious menace, when at that time silver was 47 pence per ounce, for the profit in illicit coinage was then so great as to invite it. How much greater is this the case when silver as a commodity is quoted at one-half its coined value?

It is not to be presumed that the gold worshipers will pay any attention to any such dangers or recognize that there is any, but it is real. Men hazard life and reputation for far less attractive schemes of unlawful gain.

No such rewards ever tempted the buccaneers of the last century to overhaul and by bloody assaults capture the Spanish galleons as now tempts the manufacture of real money from "material rejected by the builders."

A third contention of the monometallists is the overproduction of silver.

In view of the mendacious course of influential public newspapers, in their efforts to deceive the people by asserting and reasserting that what they call "the fall of silver" is due to its large production, it may be well to quote from Part I. of "The Report of the Royal Commission," and signed by all of its members, the following:

"In the forty years between 1833 and 1873, which include the period of the great gold discoveries, and the consequent increase of the available supply of that metal, but little change in the gold price of silver is observed.

"In the ten years from 1831 to 1840 the proportion which the value of the silver produced bore to that of gold was as 1.86 to 1.

"In the five years from 1851 to 1855 the proportions had fallen to $\frac{2.88}{1.000}$ to 1 (but $\frac{0.88}{1.000}$ more than 1 of silver to 4 of gold)." Yet the market value of silver only varied between 15.75 to 1 in the former period, and 15.41 to 1 in the latter. If the goldbugs were amenable to reason such statements would be realized. But this fundamental truth cannot be ignored. *The fall of silver was due to legislative enactment, not to natural causes.*

That act of February 12, 1873 was revolutionary. Congress having coined "and regulated the value thereof," possessed no constitutional power to impair the obligation of contracts by changing the standard of payments. It has fitly been termed the "crime of 1873" by grave Senators, as it is by all right thinking people. The utter impossibility of its final consummation is now apparent, and a continuance of the attempts to do so will lead to a violent repudiation of many national obligations, or a readjustment of them. A writer in the *Fortnightly Review* (London, June, 1893) in an able paper upon "The Currency Crisis in the United States," said: "To-day the bankers of Lombard Street would be well advised to agree, and to agree quickly, to a demand for reform, before it has given place to a clamor for restitution."

The effort so persistently made by the gold side public press to make it appear that it is an innovation upon established usage is as false as it is unworthy. They are the innovators, and the defenders of the moral wrong which is afflicting the whole world. The agitation will not cease until that wrong is righted, for the people are everywhere being aroused to its enormity. Of right they demand a return to the constitutional standard.

J. W. POTTER.

Charlottesville, Va., March 25th.

FOREIGN FACTS AND FANCIES.

THERE are practically no oaths in the Japanese language. About the most emphatic remark available for use, even by jinrikisha men in a street blockade, is "shinksu" or "beast."

A case of poisoning by nutmegs is reported to the *Lancet* by a Scotch doctor. A woman for some reason had swallowed two nutmegs ground into a little gin. She was seized with vertigo, became delirious, while the heart's action became faint. It took three days of energetic treatment to set her on her feet again.

Near Moulins, recently, a vicious bull gave the occasion for testing the power of the Lebel carbine. The soldiers were called out to kill the bull. A bullet from an army gun entered at the bull's shoulder and came out at the crupper, completely travers-

ing the bull's body; the large bones were pierced with round holes without splintering. It is believed that the bullet would have passed through eight men in a row.

The catalogue of books in the British Museum, to be completed in 1900, will consist of six hundred large volumes of printed matter. The completed index will be a library in itself, exceeding in volume the Buddhist Canon, the most tremendous codex known, or anything else of like sort in existence. In 1900 it is computed that the library will contain in round numbers 2,000,000 books, the number now exceeding 1,750,000.

Abdurrahman, Ameer of Afghanistan, is one of the most interesting despots in the world. He is over fifty years of age, a man of great stature and colossal strength, with a broad, massive countenance and brilliant black eyes. He is dignified and commanding in bearing, and can be genial if he cares to be. He is a man of great intellectual power and of a wide range of information. He is feared by his enemies and adored by his friends.

Lord and Lady Aberdeen were very polite to Felix Morris, the comedian, during his recent starring tour in Canada. Although they are strict Presbyterians, and not especially enthusiastic regarding the stage, they called on Mr. Morris and his company behind the scenes at a theatre in Montreal, and expressed themselves as much pleased with the performance that had just been given. It was an almost unprecedented compliment from such a source.

England consumes 600,000 pounds or about 4,000,000 gallons of tea every day, which is as much as is used by the rest of Europe, North and South America, Africa and Australia combined. The green tea of former days has almost ceased to be known, while the Twankay, Hyson and Gunpowder teas are seldom heard from. China only supplies one-twelfth of the quantity, the rest coming from India and Ceylon. The Indian tea goes half as far again as the Chinese, as regards color and flavor.

The *London Daily News* says: It is a singular fact that while Conservatives are predicting the speedy break-up of the Liberal party, the most recent "secessions" have been all in favor of that party. The decision of the Earl of Buckinghamshire, for instance, means the transference of a vote in the Lords from the Conservative to the Liberal side, for the Earl has always been classed as a Conservative, and is a member of the Carlton Club. Again, only last month Sir Thomas Bazley wrote that he would not be "dragged by Mr. Chamberlain into the Conservative party," and that he should withdraw his support from the Dissentient Liberals. In the same month, too, it was announced from Cambridge that two well-known gentlemen there—Mr. A. W. W. Dale and Mr. Charles Adeane—withdrawed from the Liberal-Unionist Association, the latter saying that he was not prepared permanently to dissociate himself from the Liberal party.

MANHOOD.

NOT till life's heat has cooled,
The headlong rush slowed to a quiet pace,
And every purblind passion that had ruled
Our noisier years, at last,
Spurs us in vain, and, weary of the race,
We care no more who loses or who wins—
Ah! not till all the best of life seems past
The best of life begins.

To toil only for fame,
Hand-clappings and the fickle gusts of praise,
For place or power or gold to gild a name
Above the grave whereto
All paths will bring us, were to lose our days,
We on whose ears youth's passing bell has tolled,
In blowing bubbles, even as children do,
Forgetting we grow old.

But the world widens when
Such hope of trivial gain that ruled us lies
Broken among our childhood's toys, for then
We win to self-control
And mail ourselves in manhood, and there rise
Upon us from the vast and windless height
Those clearer thoughts that are unto the soul
What stars are to the night.

ELECTRICAL ELEMENTS.

THE Philadelphia Traction Company is pushing vigorously the work of changing the Market Street cable line to the trolley system.

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The Peoples' and the Electric Traction lines of Philadelphia are having their share of trolley "accidents."

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The Swiss Budensrath is urging the construction of an electric railroad to the summit of the famous Jungfrau.

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On dit that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has decided to invite bids for trolleying the Burlington branch of its Amboy Division.

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Electric fans used for cooling a room may be profitably employed in forcing hot air from steam radiators to remote parts of the room.

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A dispatch says that side-door electric cars are to be run by the Detroit Railway Company. Only one side door is required for each car.

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Twenty-four years ago electricity as a mechanical power was unknown. Now \$900,000,000 is invested in various kinds of electrical machinery.

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After an unsuccessful attempt to wipe out the Finch Exchange, at Escanaba, Mich., the Bell Telephone Company's "interests" have abandoned the struggle—for the present.

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Electric heat has been applied with success to the thawing out of frozen water pipes in England. A wire is run into the pipe until it meets the obstruction and then the current is turned on.

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A dispatch says that General Manager Hanford, of the Harrison Telephone Company, will open an exchange in Chicago, and that the telephone service will be furnished to "the dear public" at an all-round rate of \$60 per year.

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A telegram from Niles, Mich., says that "a merry telephone war is being conducted in that city. The Gilliland, a new system, gives service for \$20 a year. Now the old Bell Company has announced that old subscribers can have telephone service for nothing."

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The *Electrical Review* says that the record for speed in the sending of telegrams is said to be held by the Commercial Cable Company. In September, 1894, a message was sent from Manchester, England, to Victoria, British Columbia, and the answer returned, all in ninety seconds. In October a message was dispatched from New York to London and the answer received in five seconds.

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The revenue of the Western Union Telegraph Company for furnishing the time of day footed up about \$1,500,000 last year. The company has a telegraph desk in the Naval Observatory at Washington. Four minutes before noon the wires of the system all over the United States are cleared of business, and the instant the sun passes the 75th meridian electricity carries the news to every city.

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The *Electrical Review* says that "the semi-opaque glasses over arc lamps in street lighting absorbs from 50 to 60 per cent. of the light produced. A new arrangement has been devised, consisting of a ring of polished glass of transparent section, partially a prism. This receives the most intense cone of light from the arc and deflects it onto the wire surface of a diffuser, and a beautiful uniform illumination is produced. The glass ring is best built up of four or six segments of glass held in a light metal frame. The diffuser is umbrella-shaped and may be made of white canvas on a white frame and painted on the inside with white lead.

OUR LETTER FROM PARIS.

PARIS, March 22, 1895.

WITHIN the last fortnight much ink and paper has been wasted in frantic efforts to "make to vibrate the patriotic chord." The desired vibration has not been obtained. The masses, and indeed all classes not specially interested in the question, care naught whether French artists do or do not exhibit at Berlin, or estimate that as art has become a marketable commodity, painters and sculptors, like butchers and bakers, are quite justified in seeking customers, and, therefore—especially as they had already visited Munich—the going to the Prussian capital cannot be qualified as a crime against their country.

The other matter is more serious; its consequences may be of extreme gravity.

William II. extends an invitation to the French for the *fêtes* at Kiel; the government hesitated; it was in a quandary. To refuse after Russia had accepted might be construed as a reflection upon the Czar's attitude and would give coloring to the German accusation that France seizes every opportunity to manifest a disposition to quarrel. On the other hand, an acceptance would be terribly unpopular at home, and M. Ribot remembers that Jules Ferry was politically killed by his notorious sympathy for Germany when he was Prime Minister. Besides, and this consideration is of genuine importance, a visit of French ships to a German port calls for a return of courtesy and will, necessarily, be followed by the visit of German ships to a French port, and what untoward incident may not then and there occur? The populations of French ports are turbulent and disorderly, and nothing is more possible than the eventuality of one of those obstreperous manifestations which the Kaiser can twist into an outrage on the German flag, which will exact a humiliating reparation, or be interpreted as a *casus belli*. It needed all Count von Munster's tact to prevent a declaration of war, when the German "*reptiles*" falsely asserted that his mother had been insulted during her visit to Paris; should any mark of disrespect be offered to the representatives of Fatherland, France will be forced to eat much humble pie or be invaded within a week. In his alternative of two evils M. Ribot chooses the least, that is the least imminent, and, leaving the morrow to take care of itself, follows the Russian lead, with a faint hope of disarming national indignation—if the nation should be indignant (?)—by so arranging at St. Petersburg that the French and Russian participation shall be cut on the same pattern and be interpreted by Europe at large as an "affirmation of Franco-Russian solidarity." Certain authorities, who are in the secret of the gods, aver that if the French go to the Baltic festival, it is because their government had been irremediably compromised by the acceptance by their Ambassador of the invitation and could not get out of the difficulty without a rupture of diplomatic relations by the disavowal of its mouthpiece, but that M. Herbette will be removed to another post from Berlin, as the late M. Waddington was relieved from London, where he sacrificed French interests to the exactions of the Cabinet of St. James.

However, be this as it may, William has accomplished his purpose; he will unite the delegations of all civilized nations—except Denmark, where the hatchet has not been buried—in a demonstration of harmony to German progress. But that the objective of the Baltic ship canal is commercial, in the strict acceptance of the term, is an error. Certainly all the great industrial and commercial centers of Germany will derive immense profits from the opening of this line of communication, but its capital importance is strategical not commercial. The cost of keeping it in order is estimated at 2,500,000 marks per annum, to cover which outlay the Imperial Treasury counts upon the annual passage of 18,000 vessels, paying toll at the rate of 75 pfennigs per ton—about 20 cents; but as freight only costs about the fiftieth part of one cent per ton, it is permissible to suppose that a great majority

of vessels will avoid this enormous additional expense and continue to pass as heretofore by the Sund. Again, during the winter months the canal will be obstructed by ice, and to be kept in a navigable condition will need an appropriation of funds that can only be met by the budget of the German War Department, vitally interested in securing an uninterrupted and interruptible line of communication between Kiel and Wilhelm's Haven. William II. rarely wastes his time on matters where, at least indirectly, the question of politics is not involved, and when we notice that the depth of the canal is over 30 feet, which permits its passage to first-class ironclads, we must construe that, if from a commercial point of view the Baltic ship canal may fall short of great expectations, it doubles the value of the German navy and that is the primary consideration of the Prussian monarch.

Not that he neglects the other interests of his Empire; on the contrary, he has in view the convocation of an International Conference, where he will propose, as an amendment to the existing code of international law, that, in all future wars, the merchant ships of belligerents shall enjoy the same immunity from seizure as is conceded to all other property belonging to private individuals. This measure is not altogether original; some years ago, it was proposed by the French and adopted by another international Areopagus, but the proscription was merely platonic; it was tacitly admitted by all nations that war upon an enemy's commerce is absolutely legitimate, and as no protests were made against the capture of Chinese junks, and cargo boats by the Japanese, it was supposed that what had happened in Asiatic waters might and probably would happen elsewhere.

William undertakes to change all that, although his views are in flat contradiction with those of every German military authority, from Claudewitz to Von der Goltz, who lays down as a dogma that "the rights of individuals are insignificant restrictions," and that "philanthropy in time of war is a pernicious error." It is true, however, that when Von der Goltz published this theory, German trade had not yet attained that remarkable development to which the Emperor, with legitimate pride, called attention in one of his recent naval lectures; the German merchant navy, at present, exceeds in the number and the tonnage of its ships that of France, and it is logical that the German sovereign should seek to assure its protection. Of the adhesion of the other European powers there can be little doubt; most of them are not interested at all in the question, but Italy will enthusiastically respond in the affirmative; her coasting crafts swarm in the Mediterranean, and oranges and lemons are not contraband of war.

The attitude of America is the unknown quantity of the equation, and to be a genuinely international assembly she must be invited to the contemplated congress, but that England will support the proposed innovation is a certainty. Only in her commerce is England vulnerable; if her merchant navy be guaranteed against capture, if letters of marque and reprisal be classified as illegal, her fleets can sweep the ocean of all her enemies. But if not, as Sir Charles W. Dilke, Admiral Hornby and Lord Beresford have stated plainly, "Whatever naval battles may be won, should one of our lines of communication and supply be cut off, the British people will be in a more desperate situation than if we suffered a defeat." These gentlemen, of whom the competency is acknowledged, have not hesitated to point out the dangers; their countrymen will not hesitate, in their turn, to respond to their appeal.

In point of fact, the proposed reform aims at France; not that her merchant navy is important; it vegetates, it exists only thanks to government subsidies, but privateering, in past conflicts, has always been one of her most potent weapons of offense; it suits admirably the national temperament and, not to speak of the exploits of Jean Bart and Suffren, the history of the last war records the terrible panic occasioned all along the German seaboard by the capture of a few fishing boats by the French Baltic squadron at the outset of the campaign of 1870.

Still, although a loser by the arrangement, France will acquiesce if Russia does, and that on the ground that so to do is "another affirmation of Franco-Russian solidarity."

In this manifestation of imperial solicitude for the protection of private property on the high seas, it is remarkable that no mention is made of private property in open seaports. This omission is, perhaps, involuntary; but it is noticeable that nearly all the German unfortified ports are situated on navigable rivers, but inland, and, consequently, are relatively safe from any naval aggression; on the contrary, all French ports, except those of Rouen and Nantes, are absolutely at the mercy of any hostile fleet. Commentary on this difference of situation of the two nations is superfluous.

William II. proposes to hold all the trumps in his own hand when the next conflict opens, which will be whenever it pleases his Majesty to begin the game.

If credit can be given to certain rumors, emanating, it is true, from suspicious sources, another International Conference is in perspective. The Eastern question which crops up, periodically, to the annoyance of European diplomatists seems to be on the eve of resurrection. Within a couple of months numerous indignation meetings have been held in Bulgaria to protest against sundry pretended misdeeds in Macedonia, and to demand the execution of certain stipulations of the treaty of Berlin, by which a number of reforms were guaranteed to all the possessions of Turkey in Europe similar to those specifically secured to Roumelia. That these reclamations are justified is quite possible, but, as the representative of the Sublime Porte, at Sofia, discreetly observed, their agitation is somewhat out of place in a country which is not only a vassal of Turkey, but which has frequently asked for Turkish protection against the "encroachments" of its benefactress Russia. A stop, therefore, was put to the public manifestations of this turbulent people—the most degraded, except the Jews, which claims to the classification of "civilized," but, occultly, the work continues, its promoters averring that England, by and with the promised support of Austria and Germany, proposes to demand for Macedonia an autonomy similar to that of East Roumelia. In other words, the hope is that, given the numerical superiority of the Bulgarian element in the population of Macedonia, this rich province will fatally gravitate into the Bulgarian orbit. These calculations and associations may be based upon facts and promises; it remains to be proved that England finds the moment propitious for an International Conference, and, if so, whether the Porte will consent to its decision or Europe sanction its reunion. But that some new departure is quite possible cannot be denied. Strange rumors circulate on the Continent, and if Prince Ferdinand has sent his Prime Minister, M. Stoiloff to Vienna with *carte blanche* to negotiate the renewal of friendly relations with Russia, it is that the Bulgarian sovereign does not feel sure of his position nor of the loyalty of his subjects. There is some cause for uneasiness also in the Czar's attitude. This young monarch does not appear to possess that decision of character which characterized his father; he stands between two discordant political parties—the Germanophilists, of whom the platform is an alliance with Germany, and the Slavophiles, for whom that alliance is a delusion and a snare. Alexander III. managed to keep a certain equilibrium between these antagonistic aspirations; his son floats vaguely from one to the other, according to the circumstances of the moment. Thus it was that we had the appointment of Baron de Stael as Imperial Chancellor, and of Prince Lobanow as Ambassador to Berlin, from which the British argued that henceforward Russian, British and German policy would move in the same groove. Then, we learn that Lobanow was to be named Chancellor of the Empire; a few days later came another bit of news—the Prince was only nominated to "the direction of the Chancellery, of which the definite titular would be announced, etc." In these frequent changes of base one is

embarrassed to foresee a positive tendency in any particular direction; but, if the very last report be founded, the British and German press will have made a mistake; a general remanipulation of the entire Russian diplomatic service is contemplated; the Ambassador to England, being too much of an Anglophilist, will be sent elsewhere; Count de Mohlenlin, who, as a Pole and a Roman Catholic, is not a *persona grata* with the Orthodox Anslavists, will be recalled to a position created specially for him at the Court of St. Petersburg, and *vice* Mohrenheim Russia will be represented at Paris by General Ignatieff, their chosen vessel and the incarnation of their political doctrines. Ignatieff was kept in the background by Alexander III. on account of his extreme Pan-Slavist views; he was the instigator of the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-1878, the framer of the treaty of San Stefano, which was torn up at Berlin before it could be applied; and if he should be the successor of the present incumbent his appointment cannot be considered as the guarantee of any millennium on the Continent. Z.

P. S.—Several rumors are being circulated in connection with the Kiel "solemnity":

1. Denmark has reconsidered its refusal and will be represented there.

2. Admiral Besuard, "unwilling to countenance the disgraceful act of servility" (*sic*), resigns the portfolio of Minister of the Marine; this to take effect so soon as the naval budget has been disposed of.

3. The French Government has deliberately stated an untruth in pretending the conclusion of an arrangement by which the French and Russian fleets will enter the port together and anchor side by side. Nothing of the kind should be expected or is possible; as at a dinner party it is the Amphytrion, not the guests, who chooses the seats at table, so at Kiel William II., alone competent in the question, will assign as he pleases the position in the harbor of his naval visitors.

These rumors may be simple *canards*, but they find credence in political circles. Z.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

TERSELY TOLD VIEWS OF NEWSPAPERMEN ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.
THERE'S PITH IN THEM.

THE USUAL COURSE.

Nashua (N. H.) Telegraph.

Eastern railways from Chicago are cutting rates again. That means more receivers.

NOT AT ALL FAIR.

Salt Lake Tribune.

Men have the privilege of voting; women demand the suffrage as a right; it isn't an equal show.

A HEAVY LOAD, INDEED.

New York Tribune.

A billion-dollar Congress is an evil of itself, but when it acts in conjunction with a picayune administration and a depleted Treasury the burden is doubly wearisome.

BIMETALLISM IN ENGLAND.

Boston Globe.

There is no mistaking the evidence that bimetallism is making great progress in England, a fact that the single gold standard advocates, not being able to dispute, are making great efforts to disguise.

A MATCH FOR JOHN BULL.

Manchester (N. H.) Union.

If Japan lands an army in Formosa England will be agitated; but she may well hesitate to tackle Japan with force on that issue. As for diplomacy the Japanese are apparently a match for England or any nation on earth.

WHERE IT IS MUCH NEEDED.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

New York has a society organized to see that the Constitution of the United States is posted in public places where all citizens may read it. It should at once post a very clear copy over President Cleveland's desk in the White House.

SYMPATHETIC STRIKES.

Baltimore American.

Maryland miners know from the unhappy past that a sympathetic strike is the very climax of folly. The last one cost them their wages and the taxpayers of Maryland more than \$50,000. They are wise to have no more of that sort of thing.

OUR INTERESTS IN HAYTI.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

If Minister Smythe, in his red coat and green breeches, purchased especially for diplomatic purposes, is not sufficiently formidable to protect American interests in Hayti during the civil war, a ship will have to be sent; but there is great confidence in Smythe's livery.

LIVELY BUT LAWLESS.

Manchester (N. H.) Union.

The shooting of negroes by a mob in New Orleans, killing 6 Italians by another mob in Colorado, a bloody fight between two factions of a Polish church in Nebraska—surely the European reader of American papers must think we have stumbled upon lively times in this country. It looks a little bit that way to the American reader.

CHIPS FOR CAPITALISTS.

It is reported that the boot and shoe trade of England is at a standstill as a result of the recent great lockout in that industry. In all 200,000 people are reported idle.

The Canadian Pacific Railroad Directors have decided as a measure of retrenchment to make a general reduction in wages and salaries. A five per cent. cut will be made in salaries up to \$2,000 per year, and above that ten per cent.

In view of the vast number of residents of Great Britain who derive an income from the United States, the British Foreign Office has caused publication in the *Gazette* of the terms of the new United States income tax law, accompanied by a notification that the time of declaration under the law has been extended to April 15th.

Consul-General Judd, at Vienna, Austria, reports on the strikes in that country, which, he says, are similar in cause and effect to those in the United States, but are accompanied by less violence, and are more apt to have a semi-political character. There is less violence, for the simple reason that there is a standing army of 360,000 men.

Henry O. Morris, United States Consul at Ghent, says that the sale of ivory at Antwerp, the principal market, increased from 14,109 pounds in 1888 to 573,127 in 1894. There is not, however, he says, any reason to fear the exhaustion of the ivory supply, as the ivory crop of centuries is still in the hands of natives. Mr. Morris also says that about 80,000 elephants are living.

The London, England, *Bankers' Magazine* understands that practical steps are being taken to bring about a bankers' association authorized to speak and act in the name of all the banks of the United Kingdom. It is explained "there is no intention of superseding the English Country Bankers' Association or the Bankers' Institute of London, both of which would, doubtless, continue the labors which have been of so much service, but a central association is much needed."

A REPRESENTATIVE INDUSTRY.

WE depart from our usual practice in giving space in this issue of THE AMERICAN to a more definite and extended notice of a representative industrial establishment than could be given in an equally as full and satisfactory manner through the usual methods.

It is known, generally, that Philadelphia has such leading establishments, but the full measure of credit due to both the community and to the proprietors is not given, and cannot be given without a clear statement of the facts.

To show the magnitude of at least one of these representative firms, and one whose work as already distributed to many parts of the country has done much to give to Philadelphia its present prominence, we follow here with a citation of leading statistics which we are sure will interest our Philadelphia readers as well as those of other towns and the country generally.

In fact, we are aware that these great industries are already widely known by their products, and are recognized as having become very active agencies in building up industries elsewhere. Especially in the South, if the cities there wish to establish mills of any class, they must come here for their models and for their machinery. They should be informed as to what may be found here ready to their hand if they are able to make use of them.

They should see what results will be secured to them if they do as one of our industrial leaders has done.

It is not injurious competition with us for them to come here for machinery, and so to develop their own great natural wealth by our aid.

One of the best institutions of the advanced condition of American industries is found in the shafting works of the George V. Cresson Company, established at Eighteenth Street and Allegheny Avenue, Philadelphia.

All forms of transmission machinery and all appliances requisite are made in these works, and in no other country or locality in this country have distinctive works so completely or so perfectly covered the entire field. The leading sources of all the mechanical powers are water, steam and electric energy, or air in motion, and require varying forms of machinery for transmission and adaptation, and a systematic study of the economics possible in each case, all of which are done here.

These works were founded many years since at Eighteenth and Hamilton Streets, Fifteenth Ward, now in the heart of the city; but by the growth and demand upon them they were compelled for want of space to remove in 1888 to Eighteenth Street and Allegheny Avenue.

Here they built greatly enlarged works to meet the demands since made upon them from every part of the country, their special products being needed in all classes of power mills, as these should be newly erected or enlarged for new additions. The present plant of the Cresson Shafting Works is composed of many buildings, covering several acres of ground.

Among the many large buildings is first the machine shop, 500 feet in length, on the line of the railway tracks and directly receiving as well as shipping outward all freight by carloads. These facilities for receiving and shipping under cover are very great and quite unusual.

Next, the moulding and foundry departments occupy two large buildings, one 240 x 108 feet, with two powerful overhead cranes—all being run by electricity.

The heaviest forms of shafting known, some being 20 inches in diameter and 40 feet in length, are here handled with entire ease.

The stockroom is 250 feet in length by 100 feet in width and contains a large stock of all kinds of machinery ready for immediate delivery. In this stockroom are thousands of pulleys, of all sizes most constantly called for, and in perfect condition for use. Their engine room is practical, with an engine of 200 horse power running perfectly without noise.

All these rooms, storerooms and open floors within the works, are perfectly paved and kept smooth and clean, an element of advantage in case of so much fine machinery and constant movement about the works. Another feature rarely to be seen is the perfect sanitary condition; in all the buildings for the convenience of the workmen are water-closets, bathrooms and comfortable toilet arrangements. In this respect they are a model which it would be well for other works to follow. The business offices are models, but we have not space to describe them—enough to say, they are airy and practical and are in keeping with the wants of this business.

Now, there are many new mills and extensions preparing for

the current year, and to those contemplating new investments of this class these works of the Cresson Company are the first place to make inquiry.

There is unnecessary hesitancy in giving the precise facts as to these great establishments; it is, in one sense, a public duty to give them. They are as important for the public to know as are the returns of imports or of exports. Residents of other States and other countries are amazed at what they see in merely riding through our city and suburbs, and should be informed more definitely.

FACTS FOR FINANCIERS.

THINK as ye view, with envious hate,
The wealth the broker gains,
That fickle fortune sometimes puts
A premium on brains.

Atlanta Journal.

The aggregate mileage of the Pennsylvania Railroad, including its branches, is 8,874.

An engine weighing 173,000 pounds has been completed for mountain traffic on the Central Pacific Road.

The Supreme Court of Arizona has filed an opinion to the effect that ore on the dump is subject to taxation.

More than half the world's supply of tin is mined in the Straits settlement at the tip of the Malay peninsula.

The old Montauk mines near Flemington, W. Va., have been purchased by a syndicate of Pennsylvania capitalists.

New Jersey Central officials say that their forthcoming annual report will show about 4 per cent. earned on the stock.

President M. E. Ingalls of the Big Four says that that company is not trying to get possession of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Road.

The Illinois Central management has arranged to extend the \$500,000 first mortgage sterling loan, due on the 1st of next April, until April 1, 1901, at four per cent.

A number of Detroit capitalists, headed by Capt. W. H. Stevens, are interested in a project to utilize Glen Falls, Ontonagon County, Mich., in developing electric power with which to operate a number of abandoned copper mines in that neighborhood.

In Missouri in '94, the average price of zinc ore was \$5.57 per ton less than in '93, while the price of lead dropped \$1.86 per ton. Lead and zinc ore is produced in ten counties in that State, and in all 563 shafts are operated. The number of tons of lead ore mined during the year was 52,003, valued at \$1,949,568, and of zinc ore 89,150 tons, valued at \$1,337,910, making a total for the two \$3,287,478. The average price per ton paid for zinc ore was \$15, and for lead ore \$37.48.

A large bed of almost pure sulphur lies beneath a bed of quicksand in Louisiana. A Belgian engineer endeavored to mine it by freezing the quicksand and boring through it, but the quicksand would not stay frozen. Recently the Standard Oil Company tried the opposite plan successfully. Superheated water is forced through ten-inch pipes to the sulphur, melting it, and the liquid sulphur water is then pumped up. Exposure to the air evaporates the water, leaving almost pure sulphur. At the first experiment several tons of sulphur were obtained.

The Financier, New York: A powerful pool of all the coal railroad companies in Ohio and all the coal corporations in the State has been organized. Seven roads which tap the coal fields

are in the deal, which involves millions of dollars. The output of the State, amounting to over 7,000,000 tons of coal per annum, will be controlled, and 250 coal agencies, which formerly distributed the product of the mines, will be done away with, all operations being conducted from one central office. Between 18,000 and 20,000 men will be employed by this trust in the mines, and the saving from the abolition of the agencies, it is claimed, will enable the operators to pay better wages than are received elsewhere. The lines in the trust are the Baltimore and Ohio, Toledo and Ohio Central, Columbus, Hocking Valley and Toledo, Wheeling and Lake Erie, Cleveland, Lorain and Wheeling, Columbus, Shawnee and Hocking, Toledo, Walhonding Valley and Ohio.

THINGS WORTH NOTING.

POROUS glass is a late novelty in the Paris market. The holes are so small that neither dust nor draft follows its use and yet the ventilation is said to be excellent.

.

Sir Robert Ball says that the tendency of modern research is to confirm the theory that other planets of our solar system can support life, but he thinks that no animal we are acquainted with could live under conditions which prevail in the other planets.

.

People who wonder how cold gets into their houses in spite of all their precautions against it will be interested in learning from an article in *Machinery* that a candle can be blown out by concentrating the leakage of air which comes through the pores of the bricks in a few feet of ordinary wall exposed to the wind.

.

The process of toasting is said to induce a peculiar chemical change in the bread, giving it a more appetizing flavor, as well as certain valuable properties. The brown material of toast is stated to be almost identical with that of those sweetmeats known as caramels, and this "toast caramel" has great disinfecting properties and will make tainted water, meat or game perfectly wholesome. An important and probably less debatable point is that dry toast is more easily digested than the soft crumb of the bread.

.

The *Journal de l'Horlogerie* says that a new alloy has been discovered which is a substitute for gold. It consists of 94 parts of copper to 6 parts of antimony. The copper is melted and the antimony is then added. Once the two metals are sufficiently fused together, a little magnesium and carbonate of lime are added to increase the density of the material. The product can be drawn, wrought and soldered like gold, which it almost exactly resembles on being polished. Even when exposed to the action of ammoniacal salts or nitrous vapors it preserves its color. The cost of making it is about 25 cents a pound avoirdupois.

.

Gentlemen's Magazine: The air of a meeting room, tested in different places, and at different times during the progress of the meeting, showed numbers of micro-organisms varying from 135,000 to 3,500,000. The air near the ground contained fewer than the air near the ceiling. Air near a burning jet of gas showed the largest figures of all. Thus, in the immediate vicinity of a bunsen flame the gigantic number of 30,000,000 was found in a cubic centimeter, or 489,000,000 per cubic inch. Possibly tests on the air of smoking rooms would reveal still greater numbers. Mr. Aitken has not yet tested such air, but he found that a cigarette smoker sends 4,000,000,000 particles, more or less, into the air with every puff he makes.

TRAVELERS' TERSELY TOLD TALES.

IN Manchester, England, the Town Council is about to put \$1,250,000 into clearing the slums. An overcrowded and unhealthy space of five acres in the center of the city will be taken, the buildings torn down, and new model workmen's dwellings erected in their stead, with large areas for playgrounds, and trees and flowers planted in the open spaces.

.

The Berlin police have adopted a neat device to effect the difficult task of protecting the public from the sale of quack remedies. When one of these preparations contains a poisonous

Wanamaker's

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This greatest retailing of Books known to any country hasn't come by chance, and it don't continue to grow by chance. You like it because it's best—best in completeness; best in price-easiness. And it's the best key for you to use to unlock our store policy: Leadership through mastering details.

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But a word of the newest Books:

Volume 2 Bryce's American Commonwealth. \$1.80.
The Idiot. By John Kendrick Bangs. 75c.
The New Woman. By Mrs. E. Lynn Linton. \$1.10.
The Princess Aline. By Richard Harding Davis. 90c.
The Hispaniola Plate. By John Blountelle-Burton. 75c.
Majesty (a novel). By Louis Couperus. 75c.
A Pastoral Played Out. By Mary L. Pendered. 75c.
The Banishment of Jessop Blythe. By Joseph Hutton. 75c.
An Arranged Marriage. By Dorothea Gerard. 75c.
We Three and Troddles. By R. Andonn. (Illustrated). 90c.
Kittie's Engagement. By Florence Warden. 75c.
The Good Ship Mohock. By W. Clark Russell. 75c.
Stories of the Foot-Hills. By Margaret Collier Graham. 90c.
"Chimmie Fadden" and other stories. By Edward W. Townsend. 75c.

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Sterling silver, gilt enamel, filagree and pearl finish Bon Bons; orange, olive, sugar, tea and coffee Spoons; bread, pickle and asparagus Forks. Also a complete line of Table Ware, including the new, beautiful patterns George III., Marquise and Tyrolean.

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THESE HARD TIMES:

WHEREFORE AND HOW LONG.

BY

REV. J. C. ELLIOTT.

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Special attention given to insane asylums and public institutions.

ingredient they insert an analysis in the paper, and give the actual value, together with the selling price, a comparison which shows such disproportion as to teach the public a lesson.

A gentleman in search of a barber walked the other day into a stylish-looking establishment in the Strand. Having taken his seat, he was much gratified to see from notices exhibited that the charge for haircutting was only 4d., and shaving 2d. On the strength of this moderate tariff he gave an order for shave, haircut, singe and shampoo. When it came to the shampooing the assistant suggested that, as the weather was so cold, a "friction" might be more desirable. The customer assented, and found on leaving that his bill was 6s. 5d. It was explained to him that the charge for a "friction" was 5s. 6d. He naturally expressed himself somewhat strongly; but he reports that, from the proprietor's manner he seemed accustomed to strong expressions. He may well be. I should think that the "friction" applied at this establishment to the customers' heads is nothing to what takes place over the payment of the bill.—*London Truth*.

He was from one of the wildest sections in the Southwest, and the reporter was having a little talk with him at the hotel in the city.

"Living is pretty high in your section, isn't it?" inquired the reporter.

"Yes; it comes purty high."

"It's good, though, isn't it?"

"Oh, yes. It's bully while it lasts," and the man's eyes snapped under his sombrero.

"While it lasts?" repeated the reporter inquiringly.

The man nodded.

"How do you mean?" asked the reporter direct.

"Well," replied the man slowly, "it don't always last. Every now and then a pistol pops, and that ends the business as fer as that feller is concerned, and it's jest as likely to be the one as t'other."—*Detroit Free Press*.

NUGGETS AND NUBBINS.

REPAIRS—Second marriages.

Monumental liars—A good many tombstones.

Lots of men are afraid of ghosts and yet have no fear of spirits.

First Vassar Girl—He said he could not live without me, that I was, in short, a *sine qua non*.

Second Vassar Girl—And you said —

First Vassar Girl—Well, I gave him to understand that he was not.

"Colonel," asked the flippant young man, "do you suppose there will be any good old corn whisky in heaven?"

Col. Bloograssie puffed thoughtfully at his big cigar a few seconds before answering:

"Perhaps not, young man, perhaps not," he finally said. "But I am morally suttin, sah, that the absence of it will be one of the leading features of hell, sah."—*Cincinnati Tribune*.

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Employment Agent—You amaze me.

Domestic—Judge fer y'rself. Kerosene isn't worth over ten cents a gallon, is it?

Employment Agent—No.

Domestic—Well, she's most had a fit 'cause I started to pour a few drops of it in the kitchen stove.

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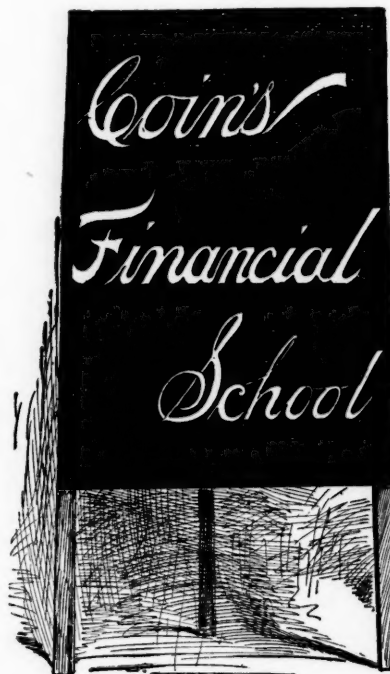
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